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- (b) Participants may file written interrogatories and requests for documents directed to any rate of return submission and not otherwise filed pursuant to §65.105(a). The permissible scope of examination is that participants may be examined upon any matter, not privileged, that will demonstrably lead to the production of material, relevant, decisionally significant evidence.
- (c) Discovery requests pursuant to §65.105(b), including written interrogatories, shall be filed within 14 calendar days after the filing of the rate of return submission to which the request is directed. Discovery requests that are not opposed shall be complied with within 14 calendar days of the request date.
- (d) Oppositions to discovery requests made pursuant to §65.105(b), including written interrogatories, shall be filed within 7 calendar days after requests are filed. The Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, shall rule upon any such opposition. Except as stayed by the Commission or a Court, any required response to a discovery request that is opposed shall be provided within 14 calendar days after release of the ruling of the Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau.
- (e) An original and 4 copies of all information described in $\S65.105(a)$ and all requests, oppositions, and responses made pursuant to $\S65.105$ (a), (b) and (d) shall be filed with the Secretary.
- (f) Service of requests, oppositions, and responses made pursuant to §65.105 (b) and (d) shall be made upon all participants who have filed a designation of service notice pursuant to §65.100(b). Service of requests upon participants who have filed designation of service notices pursuant to §65.100(b) shall be made by hand on the filing dates thereof

[60 FR 28544, June 1, 1995, as amended at 67 FR 13229, Mar. 21, 2002]

Subpart C—Exchange Carriers

§ 65.300 Calculations of the components and weights of the cost of capital.

(a) Sections 65.301 through 65.303 specify the calculations that are to be

performed in computing cost of debt, cost of preferred stock, and financial structure weights for prescription proceedings. The calculations shall determine, where applicable, a composite cost of debt, a composite cost of preferred stock, and a composite financial structure for all local exchange carriers with annual revenues equal to or above the indexed revenue threshold as defined in §32.9000. The calculations shall be based on data reported to the Commission in FCC Report 43-02. (See 47 CFR 43.21). The results of the calculations shall be used in the represcription proceeding to which they relate unless the record in that proceeding shows that their use would be unreasonable.

(b) Excluded from cost of capital calculations made pursuant to §65.300 shall be those sources of financing that are not investor supplied, or that are otherwise subtracted from a carrier's rate base pursuant to Commission orders governing the calculation of net rate base amounts in tariff filings that are made pursuant to section 203 of the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. 203, or that were treated as "zero cost" sources of financing in section 450 and subpart G of this part 65. Specifically excluded are: accounts payable, accrued taxes, accrued interest, dividends payable, deferred credits and operating reserves, deferred taxes and deferred tax credits.

[60 FR 28545, June 1, 1995, as amended at 67 FR 5702, Feb. 6, 2002]

$\S 65.301$ Cost of equity.

The cost of equity shall be determined in represcription proceedings after giving full consideration to the evidence in the record, including such evidence as the Commission may officially notice.

[60 FR 28545, June 1, 1995]

§ 65.302 Cost of debt.

The formula for determining the cost of debt is equal to:

$Embedded Cost of Debt = \frac{Total Annual Interest Expense}{Average Outstanding Debt}$

Where:

"Total Annual Interest Expense" is the total interest expense for the most recent two years for all local exchange carriers with annual revenues equal to or above the indexed revenue threshold as defined in §32.9000.

"Average Outstanding Debt" is the average of the total debt for the most recent two years for all local exchange carriers with annual revenues equal to or above the indexed revenue threshold as defined in §32.9000.

[60 FR 28545, June 1, 1995, as amended at 67 FR 5702, Feb. 6, 2002]

§65.303 Cost of preferred stock.

The formula for determining the cost of preferred stock is:

Cost of Preferred Stock = Total Annual Preferred Dividends

Proceeds from the Issuance of Preferred Stock

Where:

"Total Annual Preferred Dividends" is the total dividends on preferred stock for the most recent two years for all local exchange carriers with annual revenues equal to or above the indexed revenue threshold as defined in §32.9000. "Proceeds from the Issuance of Preferred Stock" is the average of the total net proceeds from the issuance of preferred stock for the most recent two years for all local ex-

change carriers with annual revenues equal to or above the indexed revenue threshold as defined in §32.9000.

[60 FR 28545, June 1, 1995, as amended at 67 FR 5702, Feb. 6, 2002]

§65.304 Capital structure.

The proportion of each cost of capital component in the capital structure is equal to:

Proportion in the capital structure =

Book Value of particular component

Book Value of Debt + Book Value of Preferred Stock + Book Value of Equity

Where:

"Book Value of particular component" is the total of the book values of that component for all local exchange carriers with annual revenues equal to or above the indexed revenue threshold as defined in §32.9000.

"Book Value of Debt+Book Value of Preferred Stock+Book Value of Equity" is the total of the book values of all the components for all local exchange carriers with annual revenues equal to or above the indexed revenue threshold as defined in §32.9000.

The total of all proportions shall equal 1.00.

[60 FR 28545, June 1, 1995, as amended at 67 FR 5702, Feb. 6, 2002]

§65.305 Calculation of the weighted average cost of capital.

- (a) The composite weighted average cost of capital is the sum of the cost of debt, the cost of preferred stock, and the cost of equity, each weighted by its proportion in the capital structure of the telephone companies.
- (b) Unless the Commission determines to the contrary in a prescription